

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, OHS...AND THANK YOU!

This year, 2019, marks 50 years since the founding of the Optometric Historical Society (OHS). During 2019 we will offer some special thematic issues celebrating OHS' 50th anniversary. Included in this issue are articles relating to the history of OHS and its founding. Among the authors for this issue are three of the founding members of OHS: Irving Bennett, O.D., Lester Caplan, O.D. and Raymond I. Myers, O.D.

OHS co-founders Maria Dablemont and Henry Hofstetter, O.D. were the ideal persons to give life to the OHS, not only because of the personal characteristics that made them so accomplished in their respective fields, but also because of the fact that, as they became students of optometry history, they came to recognize that optometry had a history that was "truly proud" (Hofstetter<sup>1</sup>) and "glorious" (Dablemont<sup>2</sup>). They were both very dedicated to the OHS because they wanted to ensure that optometrists had the opportunity to learn about optometry's history and develop the same pride in it they had.

On a personal note, this year is also the 25th year that I have served as editor of *Hindsight*. I was fortunate to have had Henry Hofstetter as my advisor in graduate school, and I appreciate his confidence that I would be a good editor and caretaker for *Hindsight*. There are many OHS members who have my thanks for their support and encouragement, among them being Jerry Abrams, O.D., John Amos, O.D., R. Norman Bailey, O.D., Jack Bennett, O.D., Irving Bennett, O.D., Jay Enoch, O.D., Ron Ferrucci, O.D., Ted Grosvenor, O.D., Chuck Haine, O.D., Doug Penisten, O.D. and Melvin Wolfberg, O.D. I also thank all

our authors and reviewers over these past years. A special thanks goes to Kirsten Hébert for all she has done for *Hindsight* since becoming heritage services specialist at the Archives and Museum of Optometry in 2013.

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the OHS, I urge you to consider writing for *Hindsight*, to encourage colleagues to join the OHS, and to help preserve, and educate others about, our truly proud and glorious history.

### References

1. Hofstetter HW. The OHS mission. *Hindsight* 1996;27:17-18.
2. Dablemont remembered for fierce devotion to preserving history. *AOA News* Dec. 1, 1992;31(11):12.

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### Letter to the Editor:

I always look forward to reading each new *Hindsight*. But the Oct 2018 issue was special for me. Your article on Brad Wild was wonderful, thank you! Brad was my teacher at OSU (1967-1971) and later my faculty colleague at UAB (1976-1980). We had the US Navy and the American Academy of Optometry in common, among other things in our lives. He was always a perfect gentleman, both wise and engaging. Your article brought back many happy memories of him for me:

-- Robert D. Newcomb, O.D., M.P.H.

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